

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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SUBJECT: TEXTILES - MEXICAN PRESS REPORT ON COMING
BILATERAL TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS

1. JUNE 2 MEXICO CITY "NOVEDADES" CARRIES ARTICLE ON
US-MEXICO TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS TO BEGIN IN WASHINGTON, DC
JUNE 12. ARTICLE IS BASED ON INTERVIEW WITH GUILLERMO
RAMOS URIARTE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF COMMITTEE FOR THE
RE-STRUCTURIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COTTON TEXTILE
INDUSTRY (RAMOS ALSO SERVED AS INDUSTRY ADVISOR TO GOM
TEXTILE DELEGATION DURING APRIL MEXICO CITY BILATERAL
NEGOTIATIONS).

2. REFERRING TO APRIL NEGOTIATIONS, ARTICLE MENTIONS THAT
US PROPOSED A FIVE YEAR RENEWAL OF THE BILATERAL, WHILE
MEXICO DESIRED A FOUR YEAR RENEWAL, TO COINCIDE WITH THE
TERMINATION OF THE MULTIFIBER ARRANGEMENT. ARTICLE ALSO
GOES INTO QUESTION OF STARTING AGGRAGATE LEVEL UNDER A NEW
BILATERAL, NOTING THAT LEVEL FOR FINAL YEAR OF CURRENT
AGREEMENT IS 355 MILLION SQUARE YARDS (SYE) AND EXPRESSING
HOPE THAT NEW BILATERAL WOULD BEGIN AT AT LEAST THE 355
MILLION SYE LEVEL. (ARTICLE DOES NOT, HOWEVER, MENTION
REAR END LOADING FEATURE OF CURRENT AGREEMENT; NOR IS
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NOMINAL 295 MILLION SYE THIRD YEAR LEVEL MENTIONED.)

3. ARTICLE ALSO INDIRECTLY ADDRESSES OVERHANG ISSUE,
NOTING THAT DURING THIRD YEAR OF CURRENT AGREEMENT MEXICO
EXPORTED TOTAL OF 275 MILLION SYE, OR JUST OVER 77 PERCENT
OF 355 MILLION SYE LEVEL. IT BROKE DOWN MEXICAN EXPORTS
AS FOLLOWS: YARNS AND THREADS, 85 MILLION SYE; FABRICS,

50 MILLION SYE; AND APPAREL AND MADE-UPS, 140 MILLION SYE.
ARTICLE ATTRIBUTED MEXICAN SHORTFALL TO QUOTE WEAK US
MARKET UNQUOTE, AND IMPLIED THAT BUT FOR THIS FACTOR
MEXICO HAD CHANCE OF MEETING 355 MILLION SYE LEVEL, HENCE
MEXICAN DESIRE THAT NEW BILATERAL AGREEMENT BEGIN AT THE
355 MILLION SYE LEVEL.

4. IN CONCLUDING, ARTICLE STATED THAT ABEL GARRIDO WOULD
HEAD GOM DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON NEGOTIATIONS, AND THAT
RAFAEL NEY LIZARDI (SUB-DIRECTOR FOR TEXTILES IN
PATRIMONY) WOULD ALSO BE ON DELEGATION. IN ADDITION,
ARTICLE STATED THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF MEXICAN COTTON
AND SYNTHETIC TEXTILE INDUSTRIES, AS WELL AS REPS OF
MAQUILADORA (IN-BOND ASSEMBLY) INDUSTRY, WOULD ALSO BE IN
WASHINGTON AS INDUSTRY ADVISORS TO GOM DELEGATION.
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